

1 Remarks:

2           Figures 1 and 3 have been amended to include designations of internal flanges  
3 by reference numbers 60F, 60B, 60I and 60O. Reference numeral 440 is shown in the lower  
4 right-hand portion of Figure 36. Figure 48 has been amended to include reference numerals  
5 551 and 552. Figure 45 has been amended to correct reference numeral from 575 to 557.  
6 The specification has been corrected on page 51, lines 3 and 9 by deleting reference numeral  
7 567 and inserting in its place reference numeral 552. There is no longer a reference numeral  
8 567.

9           The specification has been amended to describe on page 57, line 28 the function  
10 of ribs 629. That amendment is made in response to the examiner's objection to the  
11 specification made in paragraph 1, page 2 of the present Office Action.

12           Page 55, line 21 of the specification as filed states, "The function of ribs 629 is  
13 described below." It is believed that this statement is the basis for the examiner's objection  
14 to the specification, stated in paragraph 1, page 2 of the present Office Action as, "The  
15 abstract of the disclosure is objected to because applicant states on page 41, lines 34-35,  
16 "the function of ribs 629 is described as disposed parallel to lower plate surface 623," however  
17 no further reference to ribs is found in the specification." However, the specification pages  
18 as filed have no more than 28 lines, and there is no reference to ribs 629 on page 41 of the  
19 specification as filed.

20           It is noted with appreciation that Claims 33-41 and 48-51 are allowed, and that  
21 Claims 46-47 would be allowable if rewritten in an independent form including all of the  
22 limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

23           Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 29-31 have been canceled. Claim 28 has been  
24 amended to incorporate limitations of Claims 29-31, and additional limitations. New  
25 independent Claim 58 has been presented which incorporates all of the limitations of Claims  
26 1, 4-6, and 8 as originally filed. Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15-27 have been amended to  
27 depend from new independent Claim 58. New Claim 59 has been added which depends from  
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1 and further limits Claim 58. New Claims 60-69 have been added which depend from and  
2 further limit Claim 43.

3 New independent claim 58 recites a dental model molding tray which has flanges  
4 disposed between inner facing wall surfaces of a peripheral wall thereof, the internal flanges  
5 having between opposed inner facing edges thereof an aperture sealed by openable means  
6 having a panel which fits conformally within said aperture and is removable therefrom, the  
7 panel having a longitudinally elongated rib which protrudes upwardly from an upper surface  
8 of the panel into said upper well, whereby a dental model cast from liquid die stone poured  
9 into said upper well has formed in base portion of said cast an upwardly protruding  
10 indentation having an elongated shape complementary to that of said rib, said indentation  
11 being of appropriate size and shape to serve as a pilot indentation for guiding into said base  
12 a point of a drill bit used to form in said base a bore for securing a manipulating pin. The  
13 longitudinally elongated indentation formed in the base of a cast made in the tray facilitates  
14 the drilling of one or more bores for securing manipulating pins at any arbitrary longitudinal  
15 position, such as a preferred position in which a bore is centered beneath a portion of the cast  
16 which represents a tooth which is to be restored. By way of contrast, the protuberances 56  
17 disclosed in Jung et al., (US2004/0013998) as stated in column 2, page 5, last 3 lines through  
18 column 1, page 6, line 1, "The registration struts 56 can have a hexagonal cross-section. It  
19 has been found that the hexagonal cross-section of the registration struts 56 can help  
20 maintain the proper alignment of the segmented die 15-17." Registration struts 56 are not  
21 located generally midway between longitudinally disposed sides of said upper well. Thus, the  
22 struts 56 disclosed in Jung have a totally different structure and intended purpose than the  
23 indentation-forming rib recited in amended Claim 58, and do not and could not accomplish  
24 the intended use or function of applicant's rib, which is to form a longitudinally elongated  
25 indentation that facilitates drilling bores for manipulating pins at arbitrary locations in a dental  
26 model cast, centered below a representative of a dental prostheses to be modeled. This  
27 structure and function are neither disclosed, suggested, or remotely hinted at in any  
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1 combination of Cho '601, Cho '686, Jung '13998, or any other combination of the prior art of  
2 record. Accordingly, it is submitted the new Claim 58 clearly recites a modeling tray for use  
3 in making a dental prostheses model which is novel and non-obvious advancement over all  
4 of the prior art of record. Therefore new independent Claim 58, new Claim 59 which depends  
5 from and further limits Claim 58, and Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15-27 which all depend  
6 from Claim 58, should now all be in order for allowance.

7           Regarding the rejection of Claims 28-32, the following comments are submitted.  
8 Claim 28 has been amended to recite an important structural difference between applicant's  
9 knock-out tool and that of Cho '601 and all of the prior art of record. Specifically, amended  
10 Claim 28 now recites a knock-out tool which has a plurality of at least three circumferentially  
11 spaced apart, downwardly protruding abutment flanges-contacting members. This novel  
12 construction results in a more even force distribution being exerted on a dental cast JF, as  
13 shown in Figure 41 of the present application, thus minimizing the possibility of inadvertently  
14 breaking a relatively fragile dental cast, which can result from exerting a two-point force using  
15 a two-leg knock-out tool of the type shown in Cho '601. Claims 29, 30 and 31 have been  
16 canceled. Thus amended Claims 28 and Claim 32 which depends therefrom, should be in  
17 order for allowance.

18           Regarding the rejection of Claims 42-43 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being  
19 anticipated by Windish (USPN 3,059,336), the following comments are submitted. Claim 42  
20 has been amended to more particularly point out that the claimed slide receptacle structure  
21 and function are directed to the repeated fixability of a dental model tray holding a dental  
22 model cast in a predetermined position on an articulator arm, whereby the tray is removable  
23 from said receptacle and connectable via hinge coupling means to comprise with an opposing  
24 dental model cast in an opposing tray an articulatable full-mouth dental model not requiring  
25 use of said articulator apparatus.

26           Applicant respectfully disagrees with the examiner's statement: "Windish discloses  
27 a slide receptacle 12 for releasably holding a full-arch dental model tray and cast 14 and  
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1 attaching the receptacle to an arm of articulator apparatus 10 and slide receptacle 12  
2 comprising; a base plate (best shown in Figure 2 defined by the space between the flanges  
3 40); means for releasably attaching 46 a dental model tray (\_\_\_\_) containing a dental model  
4 cast 14 to said base plate; means for releasably attaching 26 said base plate to an arm of an  
5 articulator apparatus 10, and whereby said dental model cast is repeatedly fixable in a  
6 predetermined position on said articulator arm for occlusal relationship to an opposing arch  
7 without requiring application of plaster or other attachment means to said tray, and whereby  
8 said tray is removable from said receptacle 12 and connectable via hinge coupler means to  
9 comprise with an opposing dental model cast in an opposing tray in an articulatable full-mouth  
10 dental model not requiring use of said articulator apparatus.” (Underlining and empty  
11 parentheses added for emphasis.)

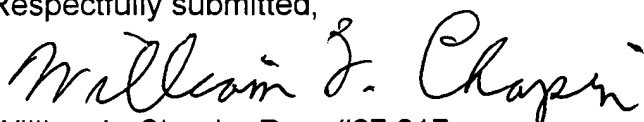
12           Taking each of the underlined words above in sequence, as stated at Column 1,  
13 lines 62-63 of Windish, item 12 is not a slide receptacle, but, rather an upper arm of dental  
14 alignment holder 10. Dental alignment holder 10 is not an articulator apparatus. Rather, as  
15 stated at Column 2, lines 22-25 of Windish’s dental alignment holder 10 is so constructed “so  
16 that the arms of the holder are in vertical alignment with each other and limited strictly to  
17 relative rectilinear movement . . . .” Windish does not disclose or suggest an apparatus for  
18 holding a tray and cast, describing throughout the ‘336 patent only a cast 14. From the  
19 foregoing comments, it is clear that the structure and function of the apparatus disclosed in  
20 Windish is entirely different from the slide receptacle recited in Claims 42-45 of the present  
21 application, and that the disclosure of Windish neither suggests or even hints at applicant’s  
22 slide receptacle recited in Claims 42-45. Accordingly, it is submitted that Claims 42-45 as  
23 amended, now clearly recite a slide receptacle that is a novel and non-obvious advancement  
24 over Windish as well as all of the prior art of record. Accordingly, Claims 42-45 and 46-47  
25 should now be in order for allowance, as well as new Claims 60-69 which depend from and  
26 further limit Claim 43. It is noted that no grounds for rejecting Claims 44-45 have been given.

1           Regarding the rejection of Claims 52-57, independent Claim 52 has been amended  
2 to recite an elongated rib for forming an elongated indentation. This recited limitation  
3 distinguishes Claims 52-57 over all of the prior art of record for the reasons set forth above  
4 in the discussion of new Claim 58.

5           In view of the remarks above, it is submitted that Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15-28  
6 and 32-57, as amended, and new Claims 58-69 should now all be in order for allowance.  
7 Accordingly, early notice of allowance of the foregoing claims, and prompt advancement of  
8 this application to issuance are earnestly solicited.

9           A check in the amount of \$25.00 in payment for 1 excess total claims is enclosed.

10       Respectfully submitted,

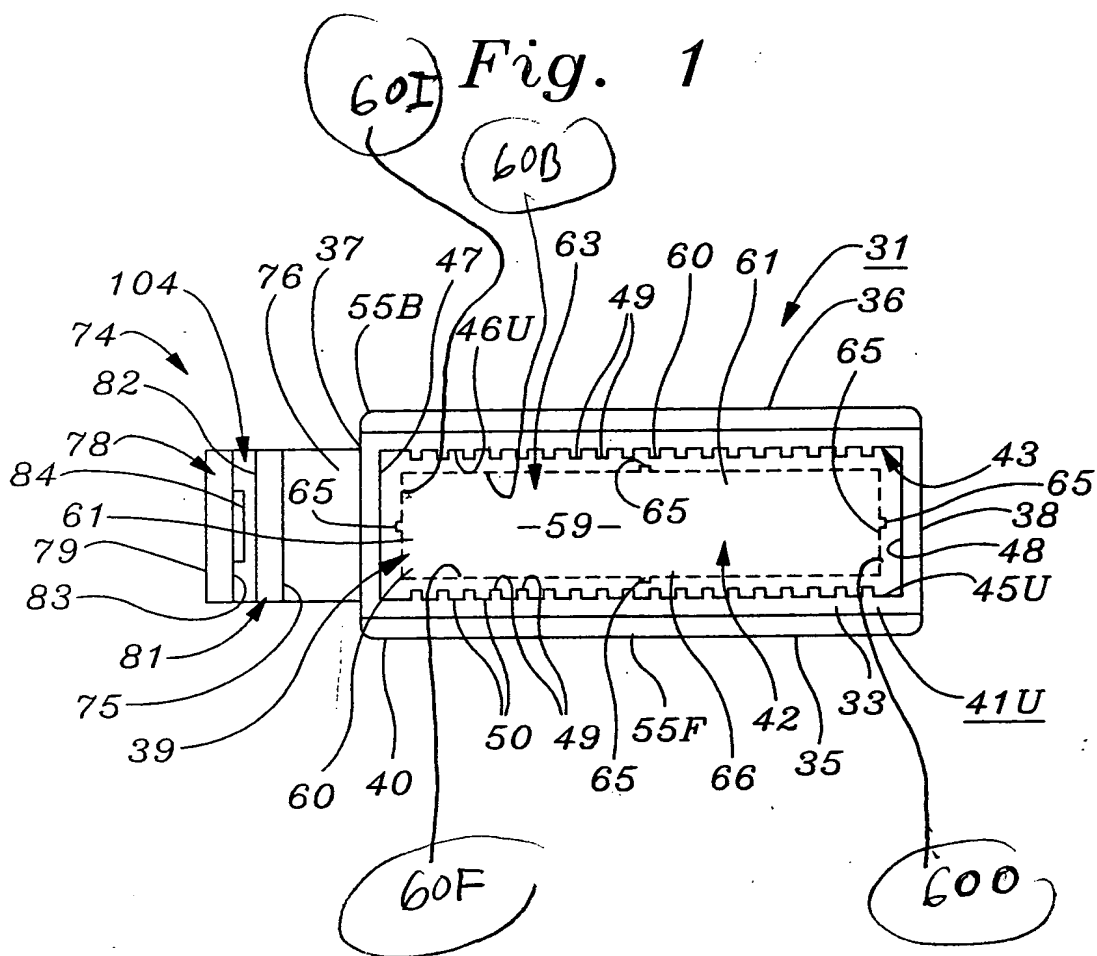
11       

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16       Enclosure

1/63



Fig. 1



33/63

Fig. 44C

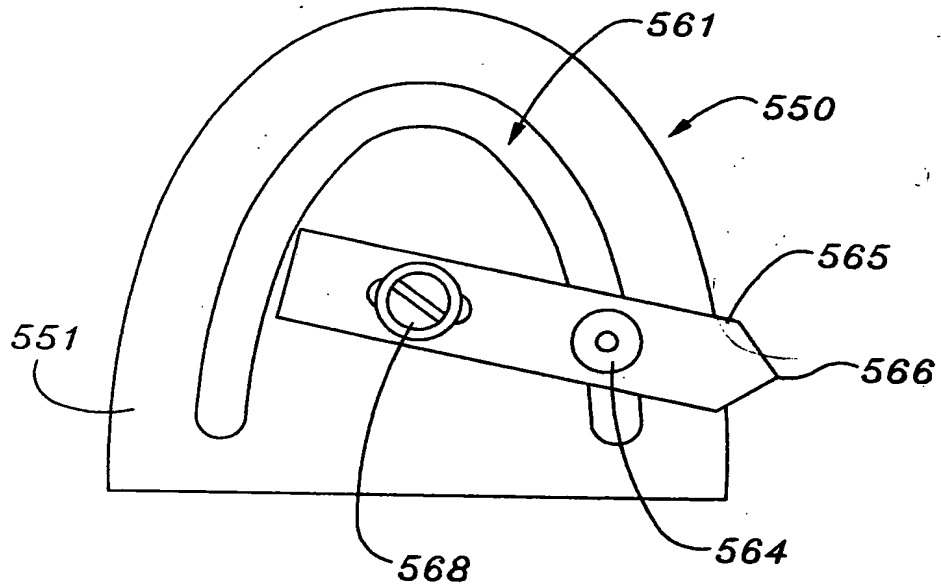
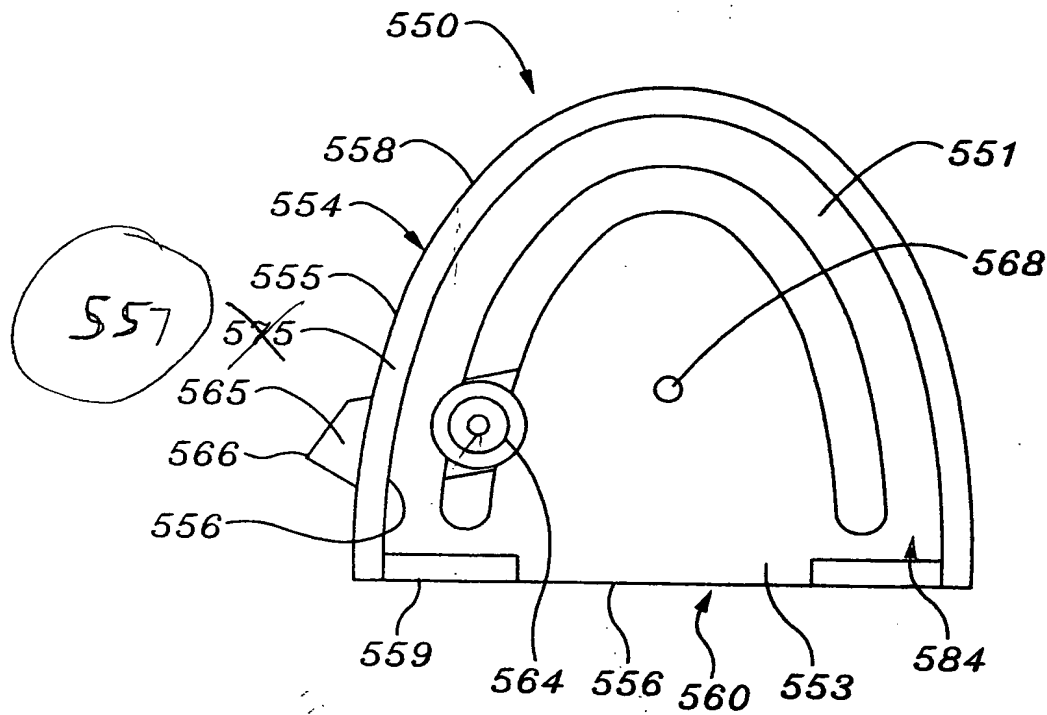


Fig. 45



34/63

Fig. 46

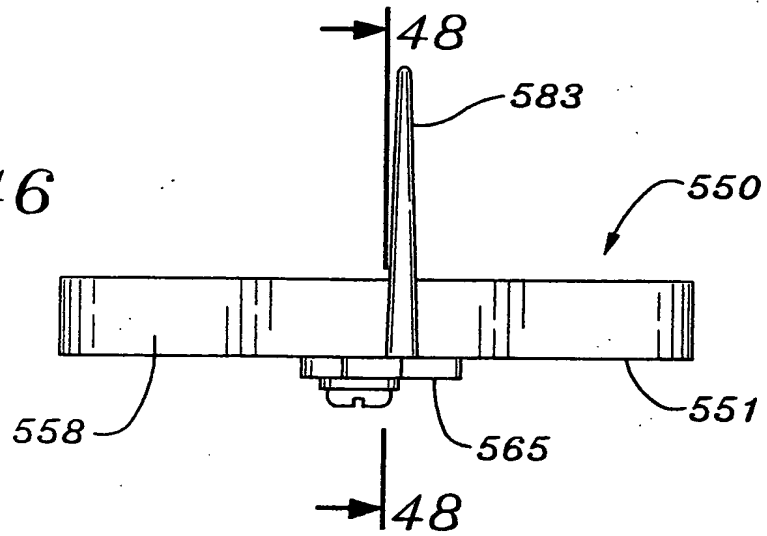


Fig. 47

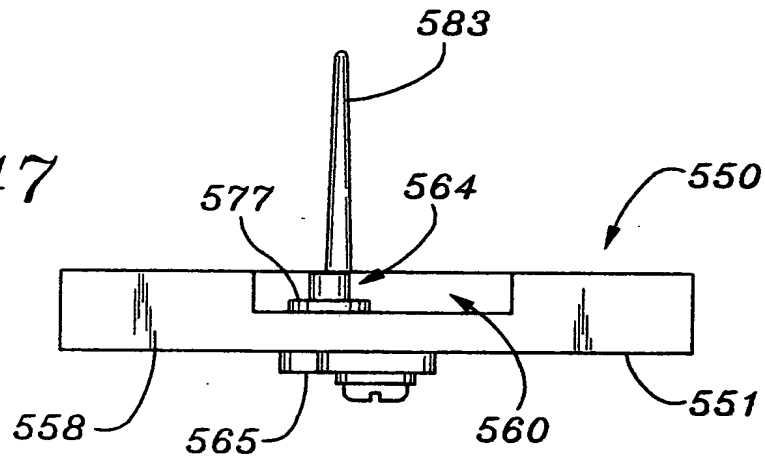


Fig. 48

